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Notice of Availability

Applicant Aid for Biotechnology Computer Readable Form (CRF) Sequence Listings Submissions

The Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) has developed a computer program, called Checker, that will aid applicants in identifying and correcting errors prior to making submissions for compliance with the Requirements for Patent Applications Containing Nucleotide Sequence and/or Amino Acid Sequence Disclosures (sequence rules: 37 CFR 1.821 through 1.825). (Final rules were published in the *Federal Register* (55 FR 18230) on May 1, 1990, and in the *PTO Official Gazette* (1114 Off.Gaz.PatOffice 29) on May 15, 1990.)

Checker is a DOS-based software program that is intended to assist users in determining whether errors may be present in the sequence listings, and is not intended to guarantee that the submission is error-free.

The most current version of the software will be available via computer downloading (details below). Copies on diskette are also available. Updated software versions will not be automatically mailed out; any updates will be announced in the *PTO Official Gazette*.

The software can be accessed/requested in the following locations:

- 1) Dial-up access to the Patent and Trademark Office Bulletin Board System.
Phone number: 703-305-8950
Cost: Free-of-charge
- 2) Dial-up access through the Internet. FTP site: ftp.uspto.gov
Login as "anonymous". Software is in directory /pub/checker
Cost: Free-of-charge
- 3) For diskette copies, telephone requests to 703-306-2600.
Cost: \$25.00

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